

Message Text

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S/S-O:MR. WRIGHT

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R 191220Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

S E C R E T STATE 203684

FOLLOWING SENT ABU DHABI ALGIERS AMMAN ATHENS BAGHDAD BEIRUT
CAIRO CASABLANCA DHAHRAN JERUSALEM JIDDA KHARTOUM KUWAIT
LONDON MANAMA MOSCOW NICOSIA NOUAKCHOTT PARIS RABAT ROME
SANAA TANGIER TEHRAN TEL AVIV TRIPOLI TUNIS USUN NEW YORK
ACCRA 15 OCT 73; ALSO SENT GENEVA 17 OCT 73:

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 203684

INFORM CONSULS

KUWAIT PASS DOHA, MUSCAT

FOR AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XX, PFOR

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

1. THIS MESSAGE IS TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON OUR POLICY
EFFORTS AND STRATEGY IN CURRENT MIDDLE EAST CRISIS AND ON
REASONS FOR OUR DECISION TO MOUNT MILITARY RESUPPLY
OPERATION TOISRAEL. AFTER SUCH TIME AS GOVERNMENT TO
WHICH YOU ARE ACCREDITED BECOMES AWARE OF OUR AIRLIFT EFFORT
AND WE CONFIRM FACT HERE TO PRESS, YOU SHOULD

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TAKE INITIATIVE IN MAKING OUR VIEWS KNOWN WITH APPROPRIATE

FONOFF OFFICIAL.

2. FROM BEGINNING OF WAR OCTOBER 6, ONCE OUR ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES HAD FAILED, OUR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO TWO OBJECTIVES: TO END THE FIGHTING AND TO CREATE CONDITIONS WHICH WILL MAKE PROGRESS POSSIBLE TOWARD A FINAL JUST AND LASTING ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE.

3. TO THESE ENDS WE (A) TOOK THE INITIATIVE ON OCTOBER 7 TO CONVENE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, (B) HAVE HELD INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, PERMANENT MEMBERS OF SECURITY COUNCIL AND OTHERS, AND (C) EXERCISED RESTRAINT DURING INITIAL PERIOD OF CRISIS IN SHIPMENT OF FURTHER ARMS TO AREA OF CONFLICT.

4. IN ADDRESSING SECURITY COUNCIL OCTOBER 7, AMBASSADOR SCALI STATED THE PRINCIPLES WE BELIEVE SHOULD GOVERN ANY SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION IN PRESENT CRISIS. WE HAVE FORMULATED NO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS, ADOPTED NO RIGID POSITIONS AND SUBMITTED NO DRAFT RESOLUTIONS, IN ORDER NOT TO PREJUDICE FREE GIVE-AND-TAKE OF IDEAS AS SEARCH FOR SECURITY COUNCIL CONSENSUS GOES FORWARD.

5. FYI: MILITARY SITUATION HAS NOW EVOLVED TO POINT WHERE ISRAELIS HAVE DRIVEN SALIENT INTO SYRIAN LINES (WHICH INCLUDE IRAQI AND SOME MOROCCAN FORCES) TO WITHIN 20 MILES OF DAMASCUS; JORDAN HAS SENT A BRIGADE TO SOUTHERN SYRIAN FRONT WHICH IS NOT, HOWEVER, ENGAGED IN COMBAT; AND EGYPT HAS CONTINUED MASSIVE BUILD-UP EAST OF CANAL WHERE IT HOLDS AREA UP TO 10 MILES INTO SINAI. MEANWHILE, BOTH SIDES HAVE SUSTAINED HEAVY LOSSES OF MEN AND EQUIPMENT. END FYI.

6. IN PAST THREE DAYS, I HAVE MADE MAJOR DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO DEVELOP CONSENSUS WHICH WOULD HAVE BROUGHT END TO HOSTILITIES ON BASIS OF PRESENT DISPOSITION OF FORCES. SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN FAILURE THESE EFFORTS TO DATE IS THAT SOVIETS HAVE NOT COOPERATED AS MUCH AS WE WOULD HAVE DESIRED IN EFFORT TO TERMINATE HOSTILITIES.

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7. IN ADDITION, SOVIETS TOOK INITIATIVE IN LAUNCHING MASSIVE AIRLIFT OF ARMS, AND NUMBER OF FLIGHTS HAS NOW REACHED 200. AFTER REPEATED REQUESTS TO THE SOVIET UNION NOT TO EXACERBATE THE SITUATION, THE USG CONCLUDED IT HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO BEGIN RESUPPLY AIRLIFT TO ISRAEL, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THIS BEGAN ONLY AFTER SOVIET RESUPPLY EFFORT HAD REACHED MASSIVE PROPORTIONS. WE WISH TO STATE WHAT AS SOON AS AN EFFEC-

TIVE CEASEFIRE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, WE ARE PREPARED TO STOP OUR AIRLIFT PROVIDED THE SOVIETS DO THE SAME.

8. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE CONDITIONS THAT LED TO THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR MUST BE ENDED AND WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK TO THAT END. WE VIEW THIS RESUPPLY EFFORT AS NECESSARY IF WE ARE TO REMAIN IN POSITION TO USE OUR INFLUENCE TO WORK FOR JUST AND LASTING PEACE SETTLEMENT. I HAD ALREADY INITIATED EFFORTS TO THAT END DURING BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AT UNGA IN NEW YORK WHEN CURRENT HOSTILITIES ERUPTED.

9. FINALLY, WE WANT TO MAKE CATEGORICALLY CLEAR, IN LIGHT OF NUMBER OF IRRESPONSIBLE CHARGES ABOUT PARTICIPATION OF U.S. FORCES IN CURRENT HOSTILITIES THAT THERE IS NO REPEAT NO INVOLVEMENT OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES OR PERSONNEL IN THE FIGHTING.

10. FOR MOSCOW: YOU MAY DRAW ON FOREGOING IN YOUR DISCRETION AND AS YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE IN DEALING WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS.

11. FOR AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES AT ARAB POSTS: IT IS ESSENTIAL EACH OF YOU PLAY THIS MATTER CALM AND COOL. WE ARE PURSUING THE ONLY COURSE FEASIBLE IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. I REALIZE THAT THERE WILL BE SOME CRITICISM, BUT THIS CABLE SUPPLIES YOU WITH AMPLE AMMUNITION IN YOUR TALKS. ONE THING I WANT ARAB GOVERNMENTS TO UNDERSTAND -- WE ARE PLAYING AND INTEND TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE. WE WANT TO BRING ABOUT AN END OF THE WAR THAT OFFERS SUBSEQUENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIPLOMACY IN WHICH WE WILL TAKE SERIOUS ACCOUNT OF ARAB CONCERNS. THE ARABS, THEREFORE, SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT
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THEY CANNOT PILLORY AND VILIFY THE U.S. ON THE ONE HAND AND TELL US ON THE OTHER HAND WE ARE KEY AND EXPECT US TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE AFTERMATH.
KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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